

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 2 and 11, respectively.

In addition, claims 1, 4-6, 8, 14, 16 and 25 have all been amended to recite the feature of the present invention whereby the digital evidential camera system of the present invention includes means for identifying a photographer that is removably connected to the camera and that includes data for identifying the photographer. And similarly, claim 10 has been amended to recite the feature of the present invention whereby the digital evidential camera system of the present invention includes means for adding and storing editor authentication data read from a detachable IC card.

Still further, claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to correct a minor informality.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-3 were again rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by previously cited USP 5,499,294 ("Friedman"); claims 4-7, 14, 16 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by newly cited USP 5,898,779 ("Squilla et al"); claims 9, 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by newly cited USP 5,343,527 ("Moore"); and claims 8, 10, 11, 15, 17, 18 and 25-27 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the combination of newly cited Squilla et al with one of previously cited USP 5,862,218 ("Steinberg"), newly cited USP 5,329,623 ("Smith et al") and newly cited USP 5,185,798 ("Hamada et al"). These rejections, however, are all respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in each of amended independent claims 1, 4-6, 8, 14, 16 and 25, the digital evidential camera system of the present invention includes means for identifying a photographer that is removably connected to the camera and that includes data for identifying the photographer. As a result, the digital evidential camera system of the present invention enables the identification of a photographer even when a plurality of different photographers use the camera.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited prior art references disclose, teach or suggest this feature of the

claimed present invention whereby the digital evidential camera system is provided means for identifying a photographer that is removably connected to the camera and that includes data for identifying the photographer, and that none of the cited prior art references can achieve the advantageous effect achieved by the digital evidential camera system of the present invention whereby the identification of a photographer is enabled even when a plurality of different photographers use the camera.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the cited prior art references also fail to disclose, teach or suggest the feature of the present invention recited in amended independent claim 10 whereby means is provided for adding and storing editor authentication data read from a detachable IC card.

By contrast, Friedman merely discloses a technique of using a camera's serial number as a public key to identify an owner. In this connection, it is again respectfully pointed out that several persons may share a camera, and that it is impossible to distinguish between such plural users utilizing the technique disclosed by Friedman. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that Friedman clearly does not at all disclose, teach or suggest providing means for identifying a photographer that is removably connected to the camera and that includes data for identifying the photographer, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 4-6, 8, 14, 16 and 25.

And it is also respectfully submitted that Friedman clearly does not at all disclose, teach or suggest providing means for adding and storing editor authentication data read from a detachable IC card, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 10.

Newly cited Squilla et al does disclose storing "photographer information". Nevertheless, this reference also clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest providing either means for identifying a photographer that is removably connected to the camera and that includes data for identifying the photographer, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 4-6, 8, 14, 16 and 25, or means for adding and storing editor authentication data read from a detachable IC card, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 10.

And it is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the other cited prior art references also clearly fail disclose, teach or suggest these features of the claimed present invention.

It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that each of amended independent claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 14, 16 and 25, as well as each of claims 3, 7, 15, 17-24, 26 and 27 respectively depending therefrom, all patentably distinguish over Friedman and Squilla et al, taken singly or together with any of the other

prior art references of record, under 35 USC 102, as well as  
under 35 USC 103.

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In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance  
of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are  
respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or  
recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the  
undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt  
action.

Respectfully submitted,



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